

RUNNING WITH THE DEVIL

MARVEL

#19

SOULE • LAMING • MILLA • MRVA

DAREDEVIL[®]



FRANCO

WHEN MATT MURDOCK WAS A KID, HE LOST HIS SIGHT IN AN ACCIDENT INVOLVING A TRUCK CARRYING RADIOACTIVE CHEMICALS. THOUGH HE COULD NO LONGER SEE, THE CHEMICALS HEIGHTENED MURDOCK'S OTHER SENSES AND IMBUED HIM WITH AN AMAZING 360-RADAR SENSE. NOW MATT USES HIS ABILITIES TO FIGHT FOR HIS CITY. HE IS THE *MAN WITHOUT FEAR*. HE IS...

DAREDEVIL

ONCE, THE WORLD KNEW THAT MATT MURDOCK WAS THE ALTER EGO OF DAREDEVIL. SOMEHOW, MATT FOUND A WAY TO GET HIS SECRET IDENTITY BACK UNDER WRAPS. HE HAS NEVER TOLD ANYONE HOW HE MANAGED THIS FEAT, BUT MATT HAS NOW DECIDED TO RELAY HIS STORY TO FATHER JORDAN...A STORY THAT BEGINS WITH THE PURPLE CHILDREN SHOWING UP ON HIS DOORSTEP IN SAN FRANCISCO, AND HAS REACHED THE POINT WHERE DAREDEVIL HIMSELF HAS FALLEN UNDER THE MIND-CONTROL POWERS OF ZEBEDIAH KILLGRAVE—THE PURPLE MAN!

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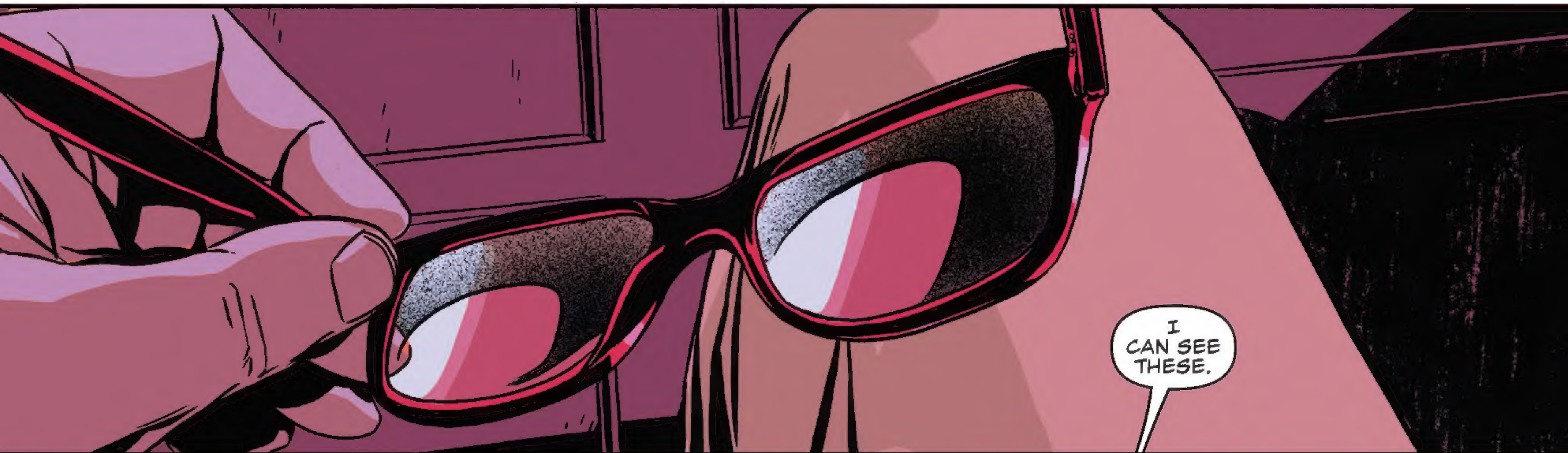
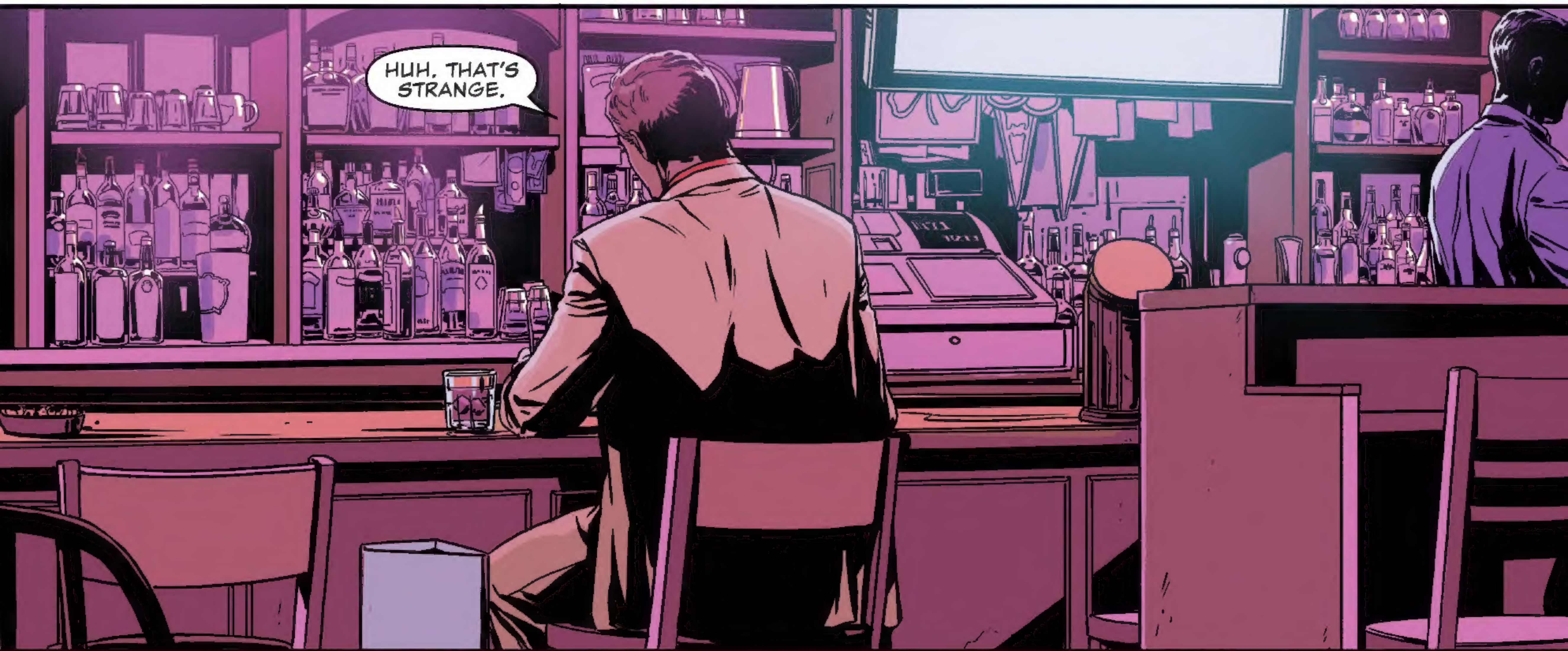
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--THE WORST
THING YOU COULD
EVER DO? YOU'D DIE
BEFORE YOU'D
DO IT.

I DON'T
THINK LIKE THAT.
I'LL HAVE TO DIG
PRETTY DEEP.

WHY DO
YOU WANT TO
KNOW?

YOU MIGHT
NOT BELIEVE THIS,
BUT HAVING THE POWER
TO MAKE PEOPLE DO
WHATEVER YOU WANT ISN'T
ALWAYS THE BLESSING
IT SEEMS.

IF YOU
AREN'T CAREFUL,
IT GETS DOWNRIGHT
BORING.

I'VE MADE
PEOPLE--MEN, WOMEN,
CHILDREN--DO TERRIBLE,
WONDERFUL THINGS.
I'VE DONE IT
ALL.

OR
THEY HAVE, I
GUESS.

EVERYTHING
I CAN THINK
OF.

BUT THAT
HAS ITS LIMITS.
ORCHESTRATE ONE TRAGIC
MURDER-SUICIDE AND
YOU'VE ORCHESTRATED
THEM ALL.

SO NOW...
I DON'T MAKE IT ABOUT
WHAT I WANT MY PUPPETS TO
DO. I MAKE IT ABOUT WHAT
THEY DON'T WANT TO DO.



THAT ONE, MONSTROUS THING THEY RECOIL FROM LIKE A COCKROACH ON THEIR TOOTHBRUSH. THE IMAGE THEY CAN'T EVEN BELIEVE THEIR MIND COULD CONJURE UP.

AND THEN I MAKE THEM DO IT, AND I GET TO WATCH AS THEY BURN THEIR SOULS TO ASH. IT'S AWESOME.



AND NOW I'VE GOT YOU, DAREDEVIL THE HERO. IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME COMING. NORMALLY YOU'RE A LITTLE TOO STRONG-WILLED FOR ME.



THANK GOODNESS FOR THIS MACHINE. IT COMBINES MY CHILDREN'S ABILITIES WITH MY OWN--AMPLIFIES MY POWER EXPONENTIALLY.

I'M GOING TO BURN DOWN THE WORLD, OR OWN IT, OR MAYBE BOTH. I'M STILL DECIDING.



BUT I DON'T WANT TO MISS A CHANCE TO PLAY WITH YOU FIRST. LIKE... AN APERITIF.

SO, DIG DEEP, DO WHATEVER YOU HAVE TO DO--THINK THOSE DARK THOUGHTS YOU NEVER LET YOURSELF THINK, AND TELL ME...



...WHAT'S THE WORST THING?



YOU THINK ABOUT FAILING THE PEOPLE YOU LOVE. YOU THINK ABOUT THEM DEAD, IN A GUTTER SOMEWHERE BECAUSE YOU FAILED.

THAT'S BAD ENOUGH. BUT IT'S NOT THE WORST. THE WORST...

...IS IF YOU DO IT YOURSELF.

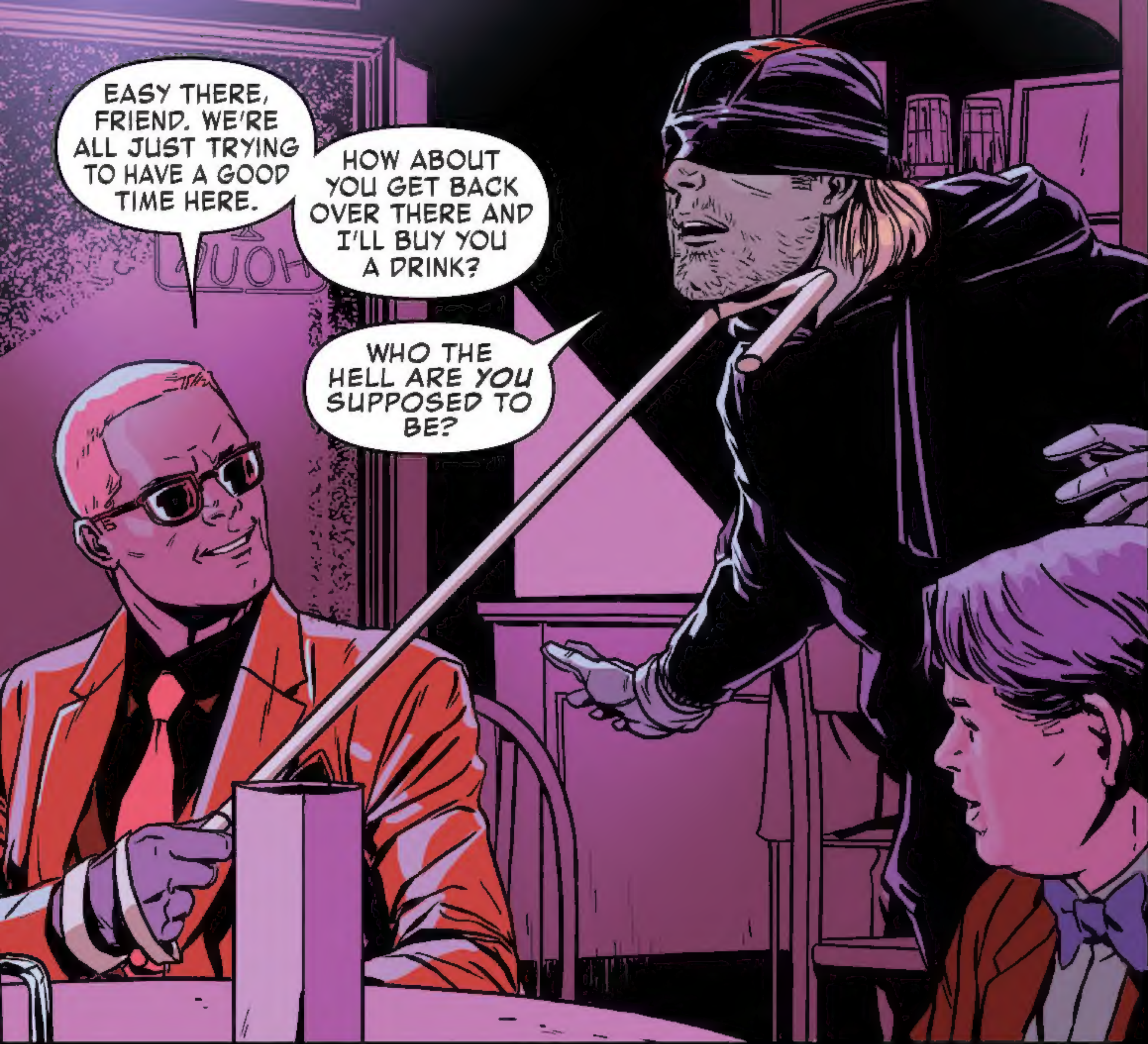


YOU LOSE CONTROL. YOU PUT YOUR HANDS ON THE PEOPLE WHO CAN'T DEFEND THEMSELVES. YOU LET THE DARKNESS OUT.

YOU HEAR THE BONES SPLINTERING. YOU SMELL THE BLOOD, THE COPPERY, SWAMPY BLOOD.

YOU KNOW THE EXACT MOMENT THEIR HEARTS STOP.







...WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

WHY ARE YOU WITH THE PURPLE MAN?

BE PATIENT, KIRSTEN THE GIRLFRIEND! YOU DON'T WANT TO SPOIL THE SURPRISE.



YOU KNOW... NO. THIS FEELS A LITTLE SMALL.

I MEAN, I'VE LOST GIRLFRIENDS BEFORE. THIS WOULD BE TERRIBLE, SURE, BUT...BEEN THERE, DONE THAT.

I CAN DO BETTER.



OR WORSE, ACTUALLY.

YOU SURE? I MEAN, THIS SEEMS ALL RIGHT TO ME.

I'M SURE. YOU WANT THE WORST THING, RIGHT?

I NEED TO GO BIGGER.



MATT? MATT?

OKAY, FRIEND.



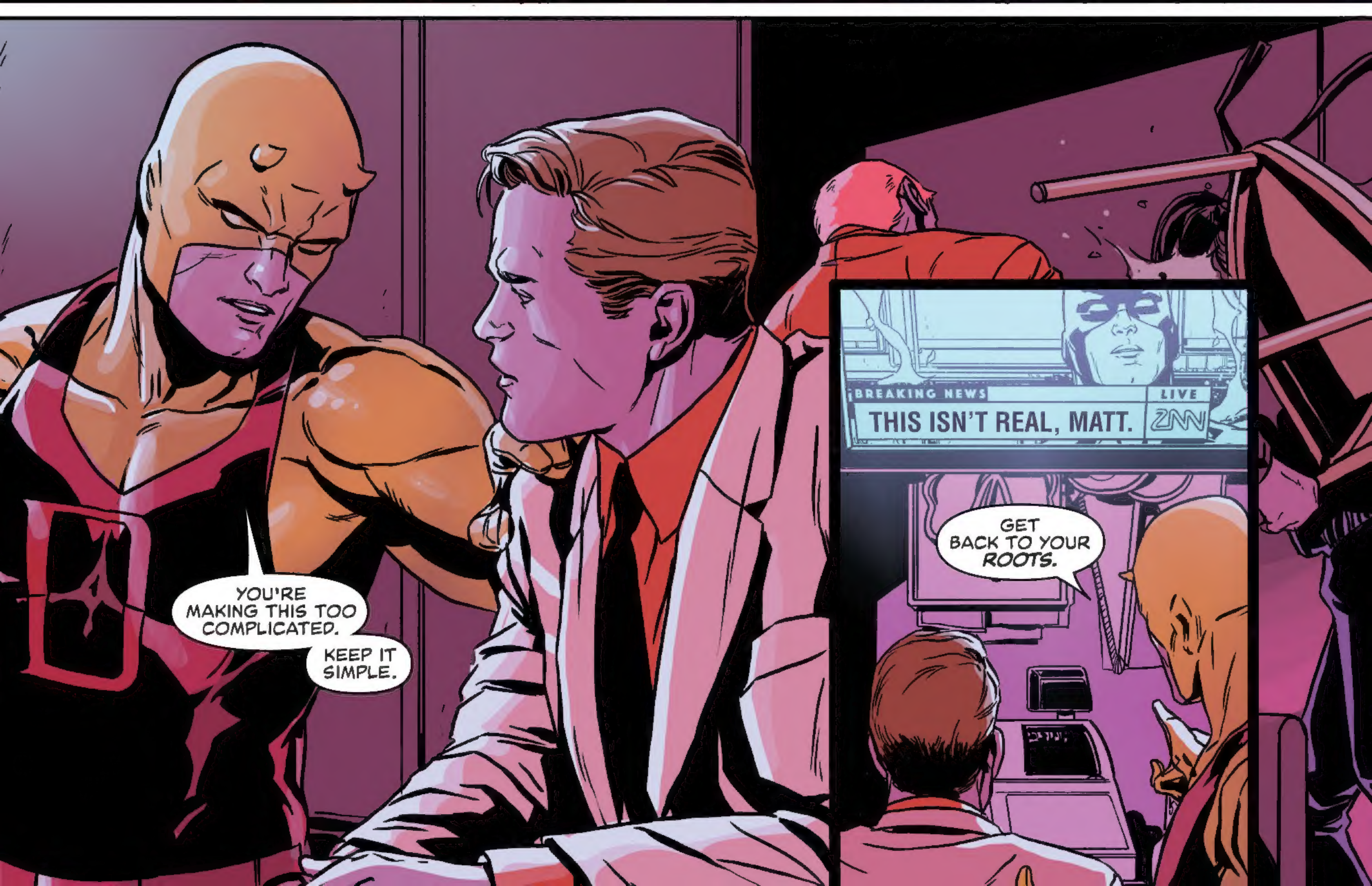
I'M TRUSTING YOU HERE.

WHADDYA GOT?



YOU BLEED LIKE THE NIGHT, FANCY BOY.

KRACK



YOU'RE MAKING THIS TOO COMPLICATED.

KEEP IT SIMPLE.

BREAKING NEWS
THIS ISN'T REAL, MATT.
LIVE ZNN

GET BACK TO YOUR ROOTS.



WHAT ARE YOU DOING? YOU'RE JUST STANDING THERE.

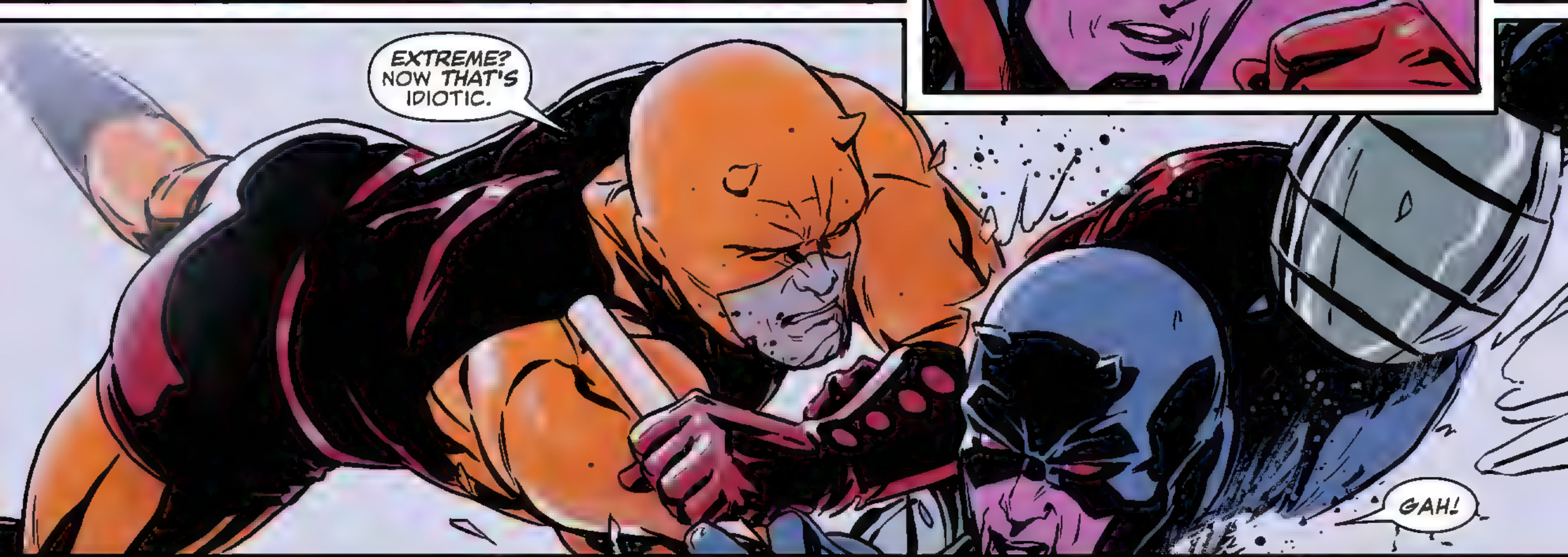
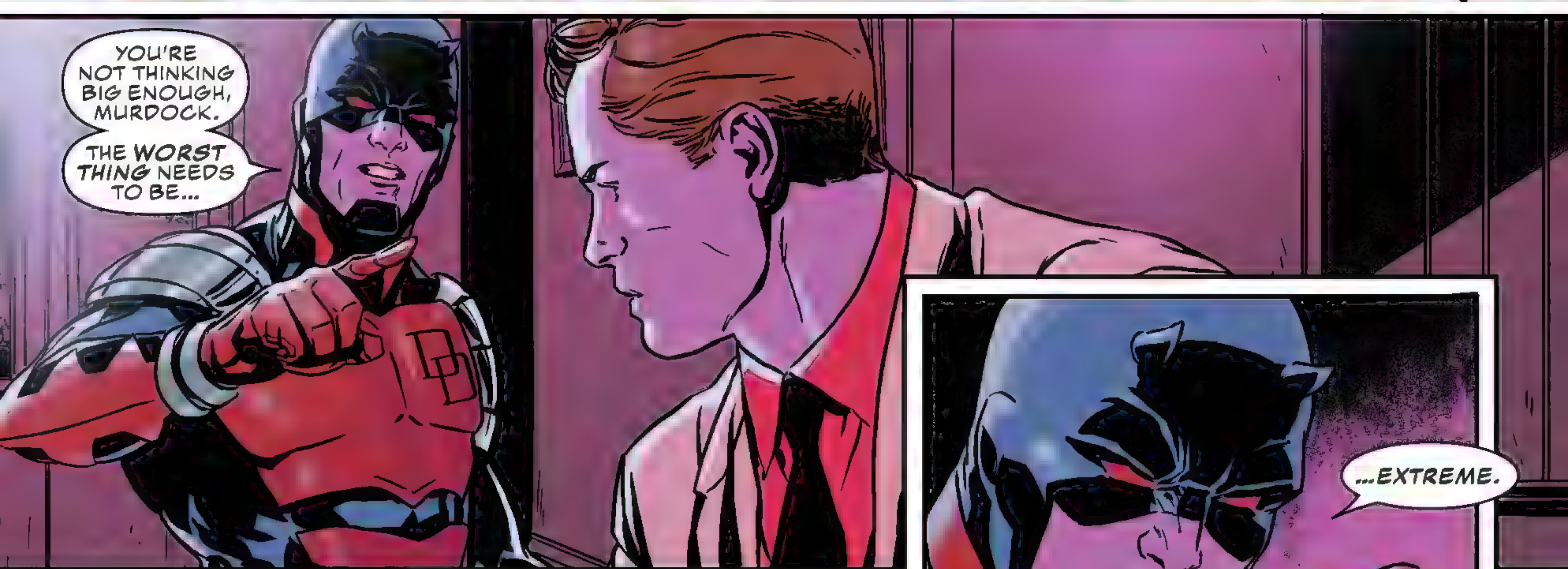
NO, I'M NOT.

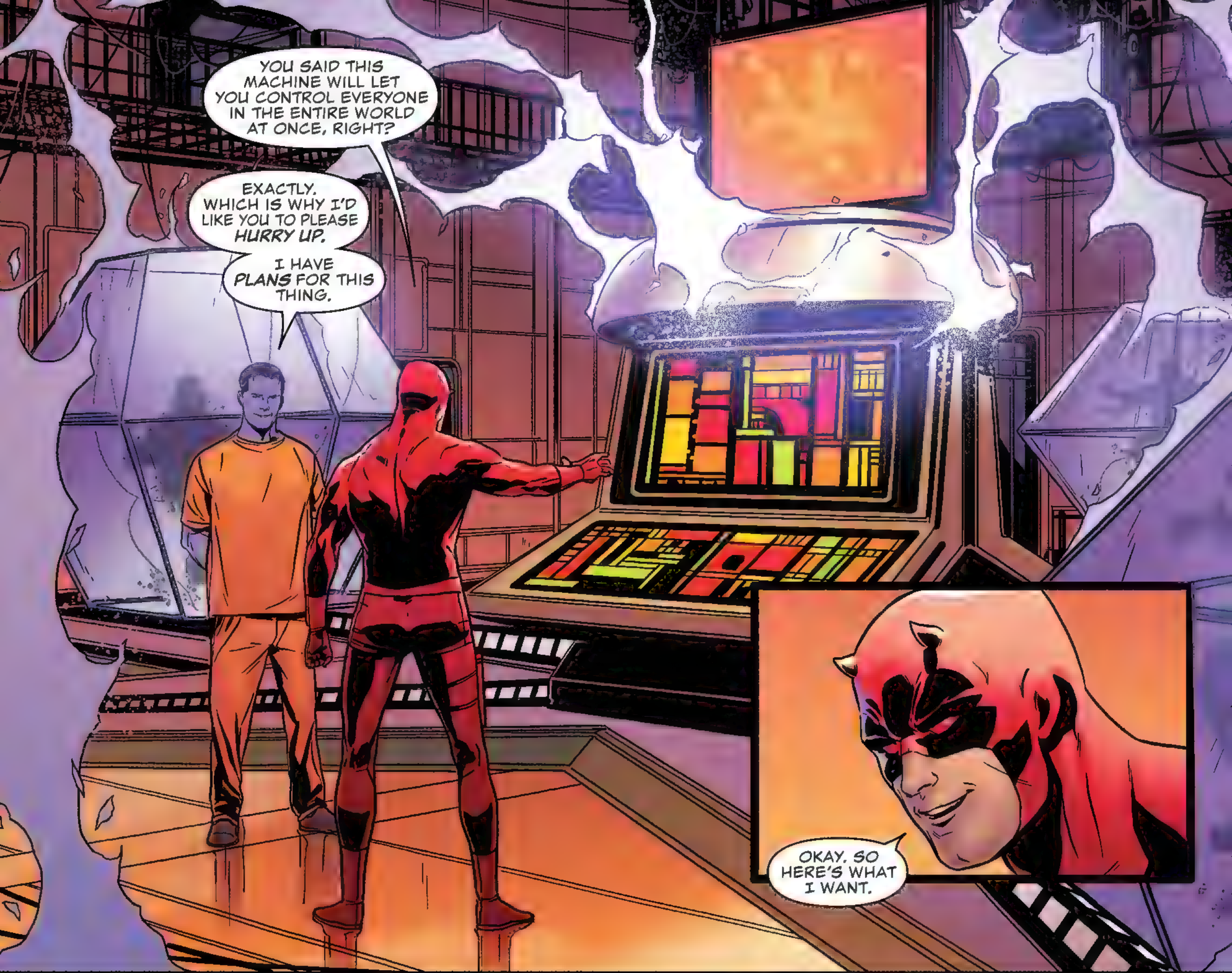
I'M LISTENING.

"FOUR BLOCKS AWAY, A GUY'S GETTING MUGGED IN AN ALLEY."

"SOME KIDS ARE ABOUT TO THROW A CINDER BLOCK INTO TRAFFIC ON THE I-80 OVERPASS AT 7TH STREET."

"THERE'S A JUMPER ON THE BRIDGE. HEART RATE'S SPIKED. SHE'LL GO ANY SECOND."



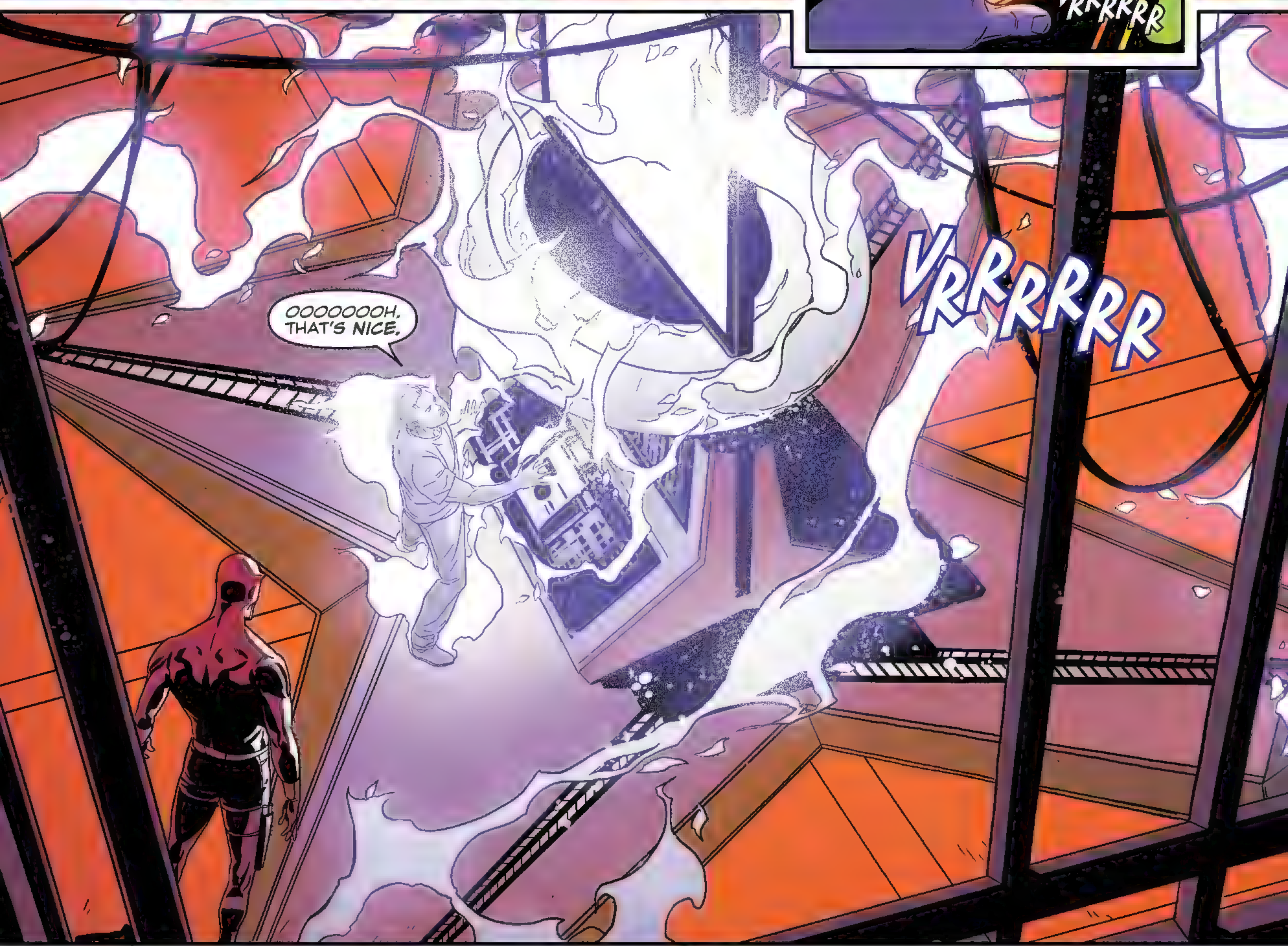




OFF...
WE...

...GO!

VRRRRR



OOOOOOOH,
THAT'S NICE.

VRRRRRRR



VRRRRRRR

KISSSSSH



"CHAOS. EVERYWHERE.
EXACTLY WHAT I ASKED
FOR."







WHO ARE YOU?

Killgrave asked me about the worst thing I could ever possibly do.



YOU MEAN I WASTED ALL THAT TIME, ALL THAT EFFORT...FOR NOTHING?

I AM GOING TO MAKE YOU EAT YOUR BEST FRIEND, MURDOCK.

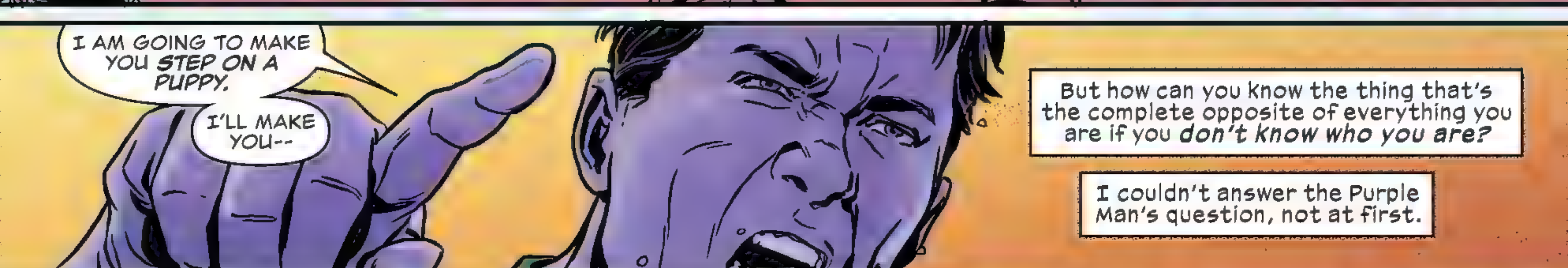
I couldn't answer him at first. It's not as easy a question as you might think.



You really have to *know* yourself. Not just something *bad*...something *irredeemable*.

WHO ARE YOU?

A step into darkness that closes the door behind you and locks it forever.



I AM GOING TO MAKE YOU STEP ON A PUPPY.

I'LL MAKE YOU--

But how can you know the thing that's the complete opposite of everything you are if you *don't know who you are*?

I couldn't answer the Purple Man's question, not at first.



WHO ARE YOU?

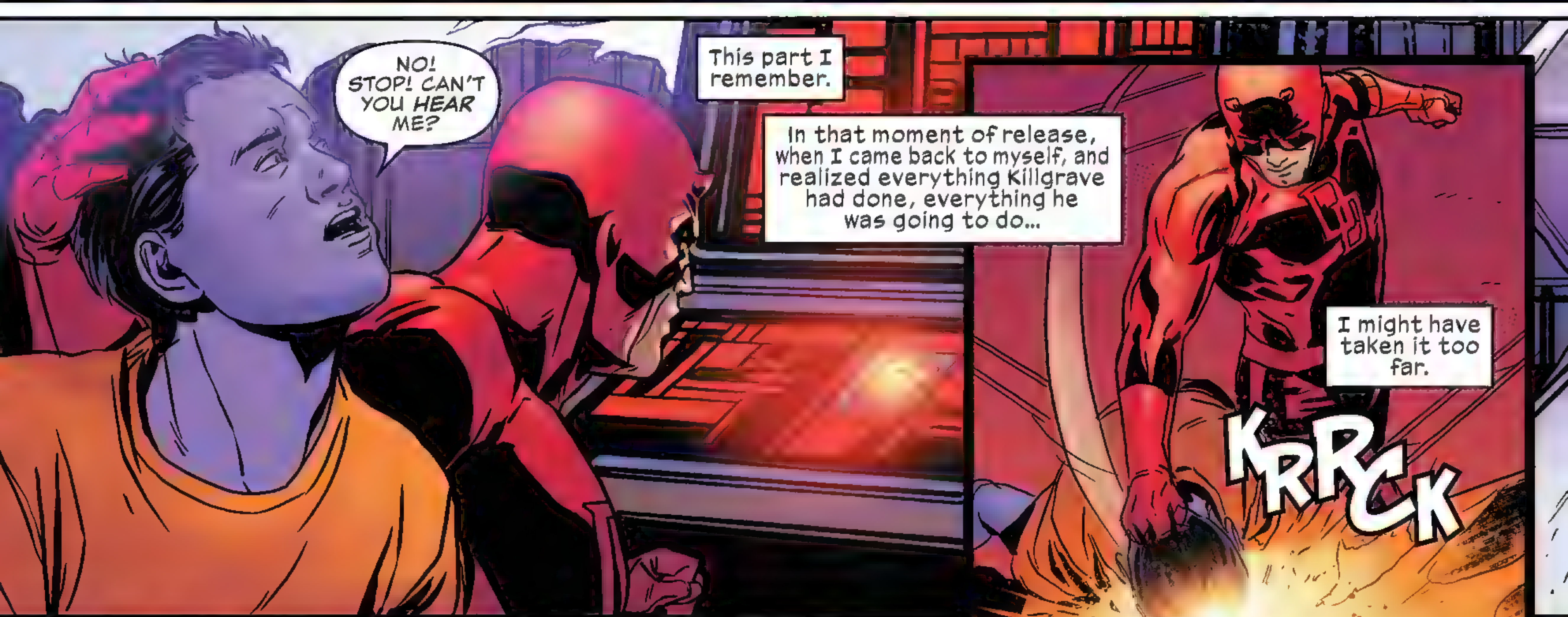
I was lost.

But then...



...I was found.

WHAT?



NO!
STOP! CAN'T
YOU HEAR
ME?

This part I
remember.

In that moment of release,
when I came back to myself, and
realized everything Killgrave
had done, everything he
was going to do...

I might have
taken it too
far.

KRRCK



NNNGGHHH

But it could
have been
worse.



DID YOU...KILL HIM, MATTHEW?

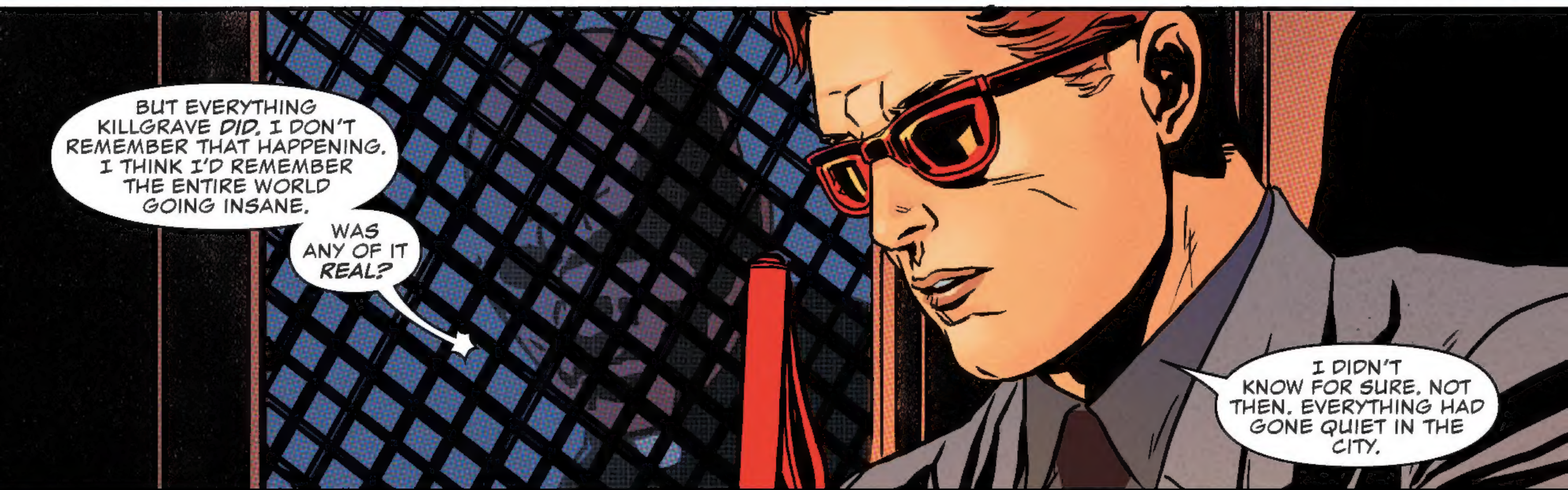
NO, FATHER JORDAN. I DON'T KILL. THE PURPLE MAN CAN HEAL FROM ANYTHING.

HE COULD HEAL FROM THIS, TOO.



GGGG

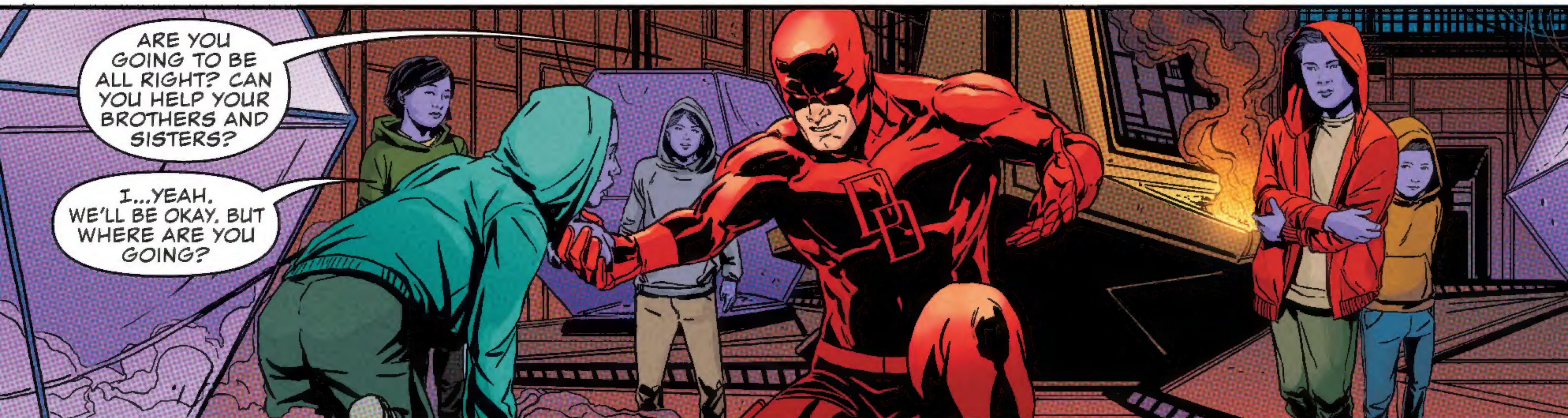
But not anytime soon.



BUT EVERYTHING KILLGRAVE DID, I DON'T REMEMBER THAT HAPPENING. I THINK I'D REMEMBER THE ENTIRE WORLD GOING INSANE.

WAS ANY OF IT REAL?

I DIDN'T KNOW FOR SURE. NOT THEN. EVERYTHING HAD GONE QUIET IN THE CITY.



ARE YOU GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT? CAN YOU HELP YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS?

I...YEAH. WE'LL BE OKAY. BUT WHERE ARE YOU GOING?



I HAVE TO HELP. KIRSTEN... I...

I HAVE TO GET OUT THERE. I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING.

I HAVE TO HELP.



MAN...
THAT POOR
GUY.



WE
SHOULD DO
SOMETHING
FOR HIM.

TO BE CONTINUED...

NEXT ISSUE:

"PURPLE" CONCLUSION!



DAREDEVIL #20

ALSO ON SALE THIS MONTH



BULLSEYE #3



KINGPIN #3



ELEKTRA #3

